

near us. There are now several machine guns near us that open on the aeroplanes when they come too near this section, and help to protect us. The aeroplanes also carry machine guns and turn them on us.

Last night about taps a supposed Belgian soldier was found in the camp. He talked good English and was inquiring his way to the 27th American Division. It was a little bit suspicious, his being around for that purpose, and as it was 10 o'clock I ordered his arrest. Major Lysterly then communicated with the Area Commandant, and he sent over two officers to examine the man. The stories were conflicting and it now appears that he is either a deserter from the Belgian army or a spy. The officers took him away under arrest. Have not heard what he turned out to be.

This p. m. Major Lysterly and I made a reconnaissance of the Teak Wood, as he will be in command of the Battalion that goes there, if the attack takes place this week.

This morning there was practice by aeroplanes of dropping small arms ammunition into trenches for the men when it cannot be brought up any other way. The practice took place on the old aeroplane field just north of us. A package of ammunition was attached to a small parachute and dropped from the aeroplane at the proper time. There were four machines taking part in this practice.

Another moonlight night, not quite so clear as last night but good enough to make bombing the order of the evening. It has been raining some nearly every day and one of the officers wanted to know, "if it always rains here in the day time and there are always moonlight nights." It seems to be that way.

One of our men on the East Poperinghe Line looking up at a German plane flying rather low called out: "Hey you big bird, don't you lay one of those hard eggs and drop it on me."

The Observation Balloons have been the scenes of many exciting times recently, which have been observed by our men. A German plane darted out of a cloud one morning and dove down and attacked one of the Observation balloons between Poperinghe and Vlamerlinghe. The plane seemed to just touch the balloon. The plane immediately flew upward and disappeared in the cloud. In a second the balloon was in flames. The observer escaped by means of a parachute.